

# NEWS

## *From the County of San Bernardino* **Josie Gonzales Fifth District**

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SEPTEMBER 26, 2006



**JGFDS-PR-162 SUPPORT FOR HEALTH EVENTS FOCUSED ON CHILDREN  
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### ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

#### **SUPERVISOR SUPPORTS HEALTH EVENTS FOCUSED ON CHILDREN**

**SAN BERNARDINO** – Two upcoming health fairs, supported by the county, will offer free screenings and educational information to families living in and around the cities of Fontana and San Bernardino.

With the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors approval, Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales allocated \$2,100 for local health-related events focused on children and their families.

“These events offer wonderful opportunities for families to spend quality time together,” said Supervisor Gonzales. “But they also offer an invaluable opportunity for parents and caregivers to seriously consider how they might make changes in their families’ lifestyles to create healthier, safer environments for their children.”

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual “Kids Count” Child Protection Fair will be held Saturday, September 30, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will feature free health screenings and immunizations, entertainment and education materials on children’s health and safety. Fontana’s Police Department, in partnership with other local enforcement agencies, health care providers and community organizations, will host the fair in its parking lot, located at 17005 Upland Avenue, Fontana. Over 2,000 community residents are expected to attend.

Supervisor Gonzales and San Bernardino County Second District Supervisor Paul Biane each contributed \$1,000 to support the event.

“The City of Fontana has always been very helpful and accommodating during the Second District’s Health and Safety Fair at Jack Bullik Park,” Supervisor Biane said. “I wanted to return the favor by helping the city host a similar event geared toward the health and safety of children.”

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On Saturday, October 7, 2006 the Inland Empire Concerned African-American Churches will hold its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Festival 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Perris Hill Park, 1001 El Highland Avenue, San Bernardino. The event will offer free health screenings, entertainment and information to promote the benefits of healthier lifestyles, nutrition, diet and exercise.

To increase the community's awareness of childhood obesity, the festival will have physical activities for the youth, including a special community fitness concert called the "Hoop-A-PA-Loo-ZA." This interactive concert will demonstrate how the young – and young at heart – can combine fun and exercise. Supervisor Gonzales contributed \$1,100 to support this community event.

"Creating healthy communities is one of the Board of Supervisors' priorities in addressing health issues in our fast growing county. Childhood obesity is among those critical issues," said Supervisor Gonzales.

Studies show that overweight children are more likely to be overweight adults. In 2004, four of the 10 leading causes of death of county residents were related to obesity.

"We need to encourage our youth to choose healthy foods and to exercise regularly to help counter the rise of obesity related diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease," she added.

For more information about the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual "Kids Count" Child Protection Fair call (909) 350-7758. For more details on the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Festival call (909) 291-0741.

*The Fifth District includes the unincorporated areas of Bloomington, Muscoy and Arrowhead Farms, the city of Rialto, major portions of the cities of Colton and San Bernardino, and a segment of the city of Fontana.*

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